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VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

The Honorable Jocelyn G. Boyd
Chief Clerk/Executive Director
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100
Columbia, SC 29210

**Re: Applications of Duke Energy Progress, LLC and Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC
for Approval of Smart \$aver Solar as Energy Efficiency Program
Docket Numbers: 2021-143-E & 2021-144-E**

**Letter Regarding Response to ORS's Procedural Request and Revised Order
of Witnesses**

Dear Ms. Boyd:

As discussed in the letter filed on October 12, 2021 in these dockets, Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC and Duke Energy Progress, LLC (the "Companies") originally proposed to present their witnesses virtually and without the use of panels because both the Notices of Hearing and Order No. 2021-611(A) indicated that the hearing in these dockets would be conducted virtually. However, on October 18, 2021, the Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS") emailed the Chief Hearing Officer requesting permission for its counsel and certain of its witnesses to appear in-person for the hearing.

On October 20, 2021, Order No. 2021-135-H was issued instructing the parties to respond to ORS's procedural request by noon on October 25, 2021. Due to the need for the parties' witnesses to make travel arrangements to attend the hearing in-person and to facilitate a prompt resolution regarding the hearing format, the Companies are filing their response to ORS's request in advance of the October 25, 2021 deadline.

The Companies do not object to ORS's request to appear in-person for the hearing. However, in the event the Chief Hearing Officer grants ORS's request, the Companies propose that they also be permitted to present their witnesses in person. Should the Commission grant the Companies' request, the Companies plan to call their witnesses in the following order:

Direct Phase:

1. Lynda Shafer Powers & Timothy Duff (direct testimony presented in panel format)

Rebuttal Phase:

1. Timothy Duff (rebuttal testimony)
2. Leigh Ford & Lon Huber (rebuttal testimony presented in panel format)

Due to the complex and technical issues in this case, the Companies would still propose to put up their rebuttal witnesses individually after the presentation of direct testimony by other parties as the Companies believe it is important that these witnesses' responsive testimony be heard after the testimony to which they are responding. As noted above, the Companies believe that a prompt resolution on this issue would benefit all the parties and their witnesses in making the appropriate arrangements for this hearing.

By copy of this letter, I am serving all parties of record via electronic mail.

Kind regards,



Sam Wellborn

cc: Parties of record (via electronic mail)
David Butler, Chief Hearing Officer (via electronic mail)